

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Forty-sixth Legislature
Second Regular Session
2004

HOUSE CONCURRENT MEMORIAL 2011

A CONCURRENT MEMORIAL

URGING THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO AUTHORIZE A LAND TRADE WITHIN
ACCIDENT POTENTIAL ZONES OF LUKE AIR FORCE BASE AND OUTSIDE THE BOUNDARIES
OF YUMA ARMY PROVING GROUND.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 To the Congress of the United States:

2 Your memorialist respectfully represents:

3 Whereas, the State of Arizona, its local governments and its people
4 recognize the vital role Arizona's Barry M. Goldwater Range and other
5 military facilities play in ensuring our military's unparalleled training,
6 combat readiness and air superiority in protecting American freedom; and

7 Whereas, Luke Air Force Base has operated continuously since 1951 as
8 a top rate pilot training facility, plays a vital role in our nation's
9 military superiority, is the home of the largest fighter wing in the United
10 States Air Force, trains all F-16 pilots and crew chiefs for the United
11 States Air Force and is strategically located within fifty miles of the Barry
12 M. Goldwater Range; and

13 Whereas, in 1951 Luke Air Force Base and its related auxiliary fields
14 was located in an unurbanized, agricultural portion of the Phoenix
15 metropolitan area, but is now within one of the fastest growing counties and
16 municipal areas in the Nation and State of Arizona, which has exacerbated the
17 challenges caused by urbanization in the Phoenix metropolitan area; and

18 Whereas, the preservation of Luke Air Force Base is an issue of
19 national, state and local concern; and

20 Whereas, the State of Arizona, local communities and landowners
21 surrounding Luke Air Force Base and its related auxiliary fields have made
22 substantial strides in preserving the mission of Luke Air Force Base and
23 those efforts have been held as a model around the Nation for military
24 facilities preservation; and

25 Whereas, the preservation efforts have placed a considerably
26 disproportionate burden on the surrounding landowners of protecting a vital
27 national defense asset; and

28 Whereas, despite the efforts Luke Air Force Base and its related
29 auxiliary fields continue to face the increasing challenges caused by
30 considerable growth; and

31 Whereas, additional land use restrictions surrounding Luke Air Force
32 Base and its related auxiliary fields are impractical to implement without
33 imposing an even greater and disproportionate burden on the landowners, many
34 of whom's families have owned and farmed the surrounding lands before the
35 presence of Luke Air Force Base; and

36 Whereas, the federal government has extraordinary landholdings in
37 Arizona and the best long-term public policy solution for the preservation
38 of Luke Air Force Base and its related auxiliary fields is a voluntary land
39 exchange between the United States Bureau of Land Management and the owners
40 of the vacant land and farm land within the high noise or accident potential
41 zones surrounding Luke Air Force Base and its related auxiliary fields; and

42 Whereas, the United States Army Yuma Proving Ground was established in
43 1942 and has continuously operated as a multipurpose training and testing
44 facility able to test nearly every weapon system in the ground combat
45 arsenal; and

1 Whereas, at one thousand three hundred square miles, Yuma Army Proving
2 Ground has the size to allow Army weapon systems to fully exercise their
3 capabilities, and to continue testing advanced systems capable of reaching
4 greater distances requiring a larger footprint without endangering the
5 public; and

6 Whereas, Yuma Army Proving Ground is a national and international
7 testing site for innovations in security, surveillance and weaponry systems;
8 and

9 Whereas, Yuma Army Proving Ground is the United States Army's center
10 for desert natural environment testing and its climate, terrain and excellent
11 range facilities make almost perfect testing and training conditions; and

12 Whereas, in the last ten years, Yuma Army Proving Ground has become a
13 key location for training operations for all services because of the
14 similarity of its terrain and climate to the Middle East; and

15 Whereas, the mission of Yuma Army Proving Ground is an issue of
16 national, state and local concern; and

17 Whereas, there remains within the boundaries of the Yuma Army Proving
18 Ground testing and training ranges many parcels of property owned by both
19 private land owners and the State of Arizona; and

20 Whereas, these privately and publicly owned lands within the boundaries
21 of the Yuma Army Proving Ground testing and training ranges are a safety
22 concern and compromise the overall mission and safety of the base; and

23 Whereas, the federal government has vast land holdings in the vicinity
24 of Yuma Army Proving Ground and the best long term policy solution for the
25 preservation of the Yuma Army Proving Grounds is a voluntary exchange of land
26 between the United States Bureau of Land Management and the owners of private
27 property, and between the Bureau of Land Management and the State of Arizona
28 for the property that is located within the boundaries of the testing and
29 training ranges; and

30 Whereas, such land exchanges would alleviate safety concerns that would
31 otherwise compromise the overall safety and mission of the bases, and would
32 establish protections needed to eliminate the challenges of preservation
33 caused by growth pressures.

34 Wherefore your memorialist, the House of Representatives of the State of
35 Arizona, the Senate concurring, prays:

36 1. That the United States Congress, through statutory authority,
37 authorize the United States Bureau of Land Management to prepare and execute
38 a land trade of equitable value between the United States and the landowners
39 of vacant land and farm land within the high noise or accident potential
40 zones of Luke Air Force Base and its related auxiliary fields.

41 2. That the United States Congress, through statutory authority,
42 authorize the United States Bureau of Land Management to prepare and execute
43 a land trade between the United States and the private property owners and
44 between the United States and the State of Arizona for land outside the
45 boundaries of the Yuma Army Proving Ground testing and training ranges.

1 3. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit copies
2 of this Memorial to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker
3 of the United States House of Representatives and each Member of Congress
4 from the State of Arizona.

PASSED BY THE HOUSE MARCH 11, 2004.

PASSED BY THE SENATE APRIL 22, 2004.

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE MAY 4, 2004.



Passed the House March 11, 20 04

by the following vote: 52 Ayes

5 Nays, 3 Not Voting

Jake Flake
Speaker of the House
Norman L. Moore
Chief Clerk of the House

Passed the Senate April 22, 20 04

by the following vote: 29 Ayes

0 Nays, 1 Not Voting

John Blumenthal
President of the Senate
Charmine Beckett
Secretary of the Senate

H.C.M. 2011

~~EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA
OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE~~

~~This Memorial was received by the Secretary of State~~

~~this _____ day of _____, 20 _____~~

~~at _____ o'clock _____ M.~~

~~_____
Secretary of State~~

HOUSE CONCURS IN SENATE
AMENDMENTS AND FINAL PASSAGE

May 4, 2004,

by the following vote: 52 Ayes,

0 Nays, 8 Not Voting

Jake Flake
Speaker of the House

Norman L. Moore
Chief Clerk of the House

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR

This Bill was received by the Governor this

 day of , 20 ,

at o'clock M.

Secretary to the Governor

Approved this day of

 , 20 ,

at o'clock M.

Governor of Arizona

H.C.M. 2011

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA
OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE

This Bill was received by the Secretary of State

this 4 day of May, 2004,

at 4:45 o'clock M.

Jamie A. Deven
Secretary of State